

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 041039

65

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:A OTTO

APPROVED BY:S/S-O:A OTTO

----- 053023

P 201817Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 041039

EXDIS MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION TO SECSTATE INFO NATO BONN LONDON ANKARA
ATHENS BRUSSELS THE HAGUE LISBON LUXENBOURG OTTAWA OSLO ROME
HELSINKI STOCKHOLM PARISCOPENHAGEN USUN NY FEB 20, 1976 FROM
REYKJAVIK

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 0243

EXDIS

DEPT PLEASE PASS TO SECDEF; CINCLANT AND COMICEDEFOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, IC, UK

SUBJECT: ICELAND-UK FISHERIES DISPUTE

1. A CALM IN ICELANDIC EMOTIONS HAS SET IN A DAY
AFTER THE DIPLOMATIC BREAK WITH UK, BUT IT IS STILL
TOO SOON TO ASSESS HOW LONG THIS WILL LAST. IT MAY
MERELY BE A PAUSE BEFORE THE NATO OPPONENTS REGROUP
TO PURSUE THEIR NEXT STEP NOW THAT THE FIRST IN THEIR
DRIVE TOWARD SELF-DESTRUCTION HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 041039

2. I SPOKE TO FONMIN AGUSTSSON THIS MORNING TO

AGAIN EXPRESS OUR REGRET OVER YESTERDAY'S GTI ACTION AND USED VERY STRONG LANGUAGE IN TRYING TO IMPRESS UPON HIM THAT ICELAND MUST RESPOND TO LUNS' INITIATIVE WITH SOMETHING THAT WILL EVENTUALLY LEAD TO A SOLUTION OR AT LEAST A TRUCE IN THE FISHERIES CONFLICT. I ALSO CAUTIONED HIM NOT TO BE PRESSURED INTO KILLING THEIR SECOND SO-CALLED "HOSTAGE" (IE WITHDRAWAL OF NATO DELEGATION). HE REPLIED THAT HE WILL STILL PERSTNALLY OPPOSED TO LETTING THE SITUATION REACH THE NEXT STAGE AND WAS PREPARED TO GO ALONG WITH A SECRET MEETING TO REACH A COMPROMISE WITH THE BRITISH IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS, PROVIDED CALMNESS CAN PREVAIL ON THE SEAS. HE FAILS TO RECOGNIZE THAT ICELAND MUST CONTRIBUTE TO THIS STATE OF CALMNESS. WHEN PRESSED WHY THE SECRET MEETINGS COULD NOT COMMENCE IMMEDIATELY, INSTEAD OF A COUPLE OF WEEKS FROM NOW, HE REFUSED TO DISCUSS THE MATTER FURTHER, OTHER THAN TO REPEAT "NOW IS NOT THE TIME."

2. I SPOKE ALSO THIS MORNING TO AN INDEPENDENCE PARTY POLITICAL LEADER WHO TOLD ME THAT STRONG FORCES IN THE I HAVE GIVEN AN ULTIMATUM TO PRIMEMIN HALLGRIMSSON THAT IF HE LETS HIMSELF BE PUSHED ONE STEP FURTHER BY OLAFUR JOHANNESSEN IT WILL CAUSE A DEEP SPLIT WITHIN THE IP AND THEY WILL DEPOSE HIM AS PRIMEMIN. THEY EXACTED A PROMISE THAT HE WILL RESIST ANY FURTHER EFFORTS TO DAMAGE NATO, AND THAT HE WILL NOT ONLY RESIST WITHDRAWING THE NATO DELEGATIONBUT ALSO ANY ATTEMPTS TO WITHDRAW ONLY THEIR PERMREP. THEY HAVE DEMANDED THAT FULL REPRESENTATION REMAIN AT NATO AND THAT STEPS BE TAKEN TO DEMONSTRATE FULL SUPPORT FOR NATO AND THE PURPOSES FOR WHIIH NATO WAS ESTABLISHED. THE IP DAILY "MORGUNBLADID" HAS ALSOEXPRESSED THESE VIEWS TO THE PRIMEMIN IN PRIVATE AND THREATENED TO WITHDDRAW THEIR

SUPPORT OF HIM IF HE DOES NOT HEED THE PRO-NATO VOICES IN HIS PARTY.

3. COMMENT: I BELIEVE THESE THREATS AGAINST HALLGRIMSSON WILL WORK. THE FEAR OF OLAFUR JOHANNESSEN PULLING OUT OF
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 041039

THE COALITION IS DIMINISHING AS THE ALLEGATIONS OF IMPROPER ACTIVITY ON JOHANNESSEN'S PART IN A LOCAL CRIMINAL CASE INCREASE. WE HAVE AN INDICATION THAT THERE ARE SECOND THOUGHTS WITHIN THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY AS TO THE WISDOM OF PULLING OUT WHILE THEIR PARTY LEADER IE UNDER SUSPICION. WE HAVE HEARD, TOO, THAT THE COMMUNISTS ARE SLOWING DOWN THEIR ENCOURAGEMENT TO JOHANNESSEN TO BRING DOWN THE GOVERNMENT AND FORM A NEW LEFT GOVERNMENT UNDER

HIS LEADERSHIP U TIL THEY ASSESS THE POSSIBLE SPILL-
OVER DAMAGE THE CRIMINAL CASE INVESTIGATION MIGHT
CAUSE TO THEM IF THEY WERE TO ASSOCIATE WITH THE
PROGRESSIVES. WE THUS SEE THE USUAL COMBINATION OF
FACTORS AT WORK, OFTEN VERY LITTLE TO DO WITH THE
IMMEDIATE ISSUE, WHICH MIGHT PROVIDE THE BREATHING
SPELL WE ALL NEED TO GET THE TWO ADVERSARIES IN THE
COD WAR TOGETHER.

IRVING UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS INTERRUPTION, FISHING DISPUTES, NEGOTIATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE041039
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:A OTTO
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760064-0788
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760229/aaaaayvr.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <31 MAR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ICELAND-UK FISHERIES DISPUTE
TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, IC, UK
To: CINCLANT COMICEDEFOR
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006